

From: Bill Dempsey
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/16/01 7:50pm
Subject: Opinion

Hi,

I'd just like to express my opinion on the entire Microsoft anti-trust issue. For many years, Netscape had a monopoly on the browser market with no real competitors. This allowed them to dictate standards that all web developers were forced to accommodate if they wanted their sites to be viewed. Nobody said a word about Netscape. For many years, Norton Utilities held a virtual monopoly in the hard drive management and repair category of software. Another example is Sun with it's total domination of the Internet server market for so many years. Does anyone else remember the total dominance of CPM in the workplace prior to DOS and then Windows?

My point is that every apparently monopolistic hold on some aspect of the computer industry has been broken by one or more companies with better products at some point. Microsoft got to it's current level of dominance by offering better products, plain and simple. This is called competition and isn't that what a capitalist society is all about?

The PC industry has also benefited from the fact that wide adoption of Microsoft's exceptional products has created standards which allowed the industry to progress at a much faster pace. Without these standards, I am convinced we would be at least a decade behind where we are now.

With all of this in mind, I obviously believe that your settlement with Microsoft is a good thing for everyone. I also believe the economy will bounce back quicker under the unfettered leadership of Microsoft and it's visionary leader.

No, I don't work for Microsoft. I even get annoyed sometimes with them when their software crashes. But honestly, their software crashes less often than most and I use it constantly.

Kudos to your team for working out a reasonable solution without killing a technological leader we need during these harsh times.

Best regards,
-Bill

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"You can predict the future if you create it."
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